

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings and rejected the claims under 35 USC §103. A marked-up copy of FIG. 1 is attached in response to the objection to the drawings. The rejections to the claims are fully traversed below.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.84. Applicant submits herewith FIG. 1, as amended in red ink. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the drawings.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 USC §103

Independent claims 1 and 28

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 28 and 29 under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over McIntosh, U.S. Patent No. 6,185,576, ('McIntosh' hereinafter), Shisler et al, U.S. Patent No. 2001/0018708, ('Shisler' hereinafter), and Nessett et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,727,143, ('Nessett' hereinafter). This rejection is fully traversed below.

McIntosh discloses a uniform subject classification system. See Title. Specifically, McIntosh discloses an interlingual mechanism to achieve uniformity when classifying anything by subject. Using generic terminology in a hierarchical structure, it directs the user to a single classification. The system captures terms into a thesaurus that can be modified and appended as classification needs change. The system "learns" as synonyms are added to "family groups", capturing differences in individual perception. In addition, the system may be searched by entering a descriptive term, which results in information pertaining to the item. See Abstract. As the Examiner recognizes, McIntosh does not teach or suggest the use of data breaks or the use of security tags.

The Examiner seeks to cure the deficiencies of McIntosh with Shisler and Nessett. Specifically, Shisler discloses a data processing system that includes client and server computers of various platform types, interconnected by a network. A batch processing engine permits an application resident on a client computer to specify processing to be performed by one or more of the computers connected to the network, regardless of the platform type of such computers. See Abstract. During batch processing, a check is made to determine whether the current level being processed is at a data break. If not, processing returns to fetch another level break specification. If the current level being processed is determined to be at a data break, child processing takes place. See p. 8, par. 0112. Thus, Shisler appears to disclose a standard batch processing engine.

In Shisler, data is processed by the batch processing engine, not used to generate another report. Shisler neither discloses nor suggests "determining whether data in the data row will cause a data break." Specifically, Shisler determines whether the current level being processed is determined to be at a data break, not whether "data in the data row will cause a data break."

Nessett discloses a mechanism for locating objects. See Title. In a distributed object computing system, the client makes a call to a daemon process of a host computer in order to communicate with a target object in an object server process. This call uses a particular security mechanism to ensure a secure communication. The daemon process locates the object server and starts it if necessary. The object server provides the daemon process with a list or table of all the particular security mechanisms that it supports. Using a security class identifier provided by the client in the original call, the daemon process selects a particular security mechanism supported by the server, and then returns this new security mechanism along with the server's port to the client. See Abstract.

The security information list in Nessett is described in one embodiment as implemented as a sequence of Tagged Components. Each Tagged Component includes a Tag and Component Data associated with that Tag. Component Data is associated with each Tag. The Component Data defines for each security mechanism identified by the corresponding Tag the services that the mechanism allows a target object to require or allows a target object to support. Depending upon the security mechanism identified by the Tag, the Component Data may include other information needed to implement that security mechanism. See col. 10, line 58 – col. 11, line 35. Nessett further discloses an object reference that includes an

object server identifier, original security information, and a security class identifier. See col. 2, lines 28-30.

As set forth above, Nessett discloses a security information list in which each tagged component includes a tag, which identifies a security mechanism. The security information list merely lists security mechanisms supported by the server. Therefore, this list is static rather than dynamic. In other words, Nessett does not disclose or suggest "forming a first security tag." Moreover, the cited references neither disclose nor suggest "forming a first security tag if the data row causes a data break." In fact, the cited references neither disclose nor suggest associating security tags with data (or data breaks). Rather, the security mechanisms in the security information list of Nessett are independent from the context in which the server will use them (e.g., independent from data that may be transmitted).

The cited references, separately or in combination, neither disclose nor suggest associating a security tag with a new page in a report wherein the data row is placed on the new page. Moreover, the cited references, separately or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest placing subsequent data rows on pages having the first data tag until a second security tag is formed such that data in the report is organized based on a plurality of security tags.

Since the cited references together fail to disclose each of the claimed elements, the combination of these references also fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention. Moreover, since the cited references together fail to disclose each of the claimed elements, the combination of the references would fail to achieve the desired result. In addition, it is important to note that each of the cited references is directed to a different technology, and therefore there is no motivation to combine the above-cited references. More specifically, McIntosh relates to a document classification system, while Nessett discloses a mechanism for locating objects and Shisler discloses a batch processing engine. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 28 are patentable over the cited art.

Independent claims 12 and 32

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 12, 13, 23-25, and 32 under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over McIntosh, Nessett, and Jebens, U.S. Patent No. 6,332,145, ('Jebens' hereinafter). This rejection is fully traversed below.

The Examiner admits that McIntosh does not teach the use of security tags, security identifiers or allowing users to view only the data they are authorized to view. The Examiner seeks to cure the deficiencies of McIntosh with Nessel and Jebens. However, as described above with reference to claims 1 and 28, Nessel neither discloses nor suggests associating security tags with data or pages within a report. Moreover, Nessel neither discloses nor suggests retrieving a report having a superset of pages, a page from the superset of pages having a security tag. While Jebens indicates that reports may only be viewed by an authorized user (col. 13, lines 6-7), Jebens fails to cure the deficiencies of McIntosh and Nessel. In other words, Jebens fails to disclose or suggest associating security tag with a page in a report or, alternatively, retrieving a page in a report based upon an associated security tag. It is also important to note that Jebens implies that an authorized user may view entire reports, rather than specific portions (or pages) within a report. As a result, Jebens teaches away from securing individual pages with associated security tags. Thus, the cited references, separately or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest "obtaining a list of security identifiers associated with the user," "comparing the list of security identifiers with a plurality of security tags associated with the report," and "deriving a subset of pages from the superset of pages based on the comparison such that the subset of pages only contains data that the user is authorized to view." Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12 and 32 are patentable over the cited references.

The dependent claims depend from one of independent claims 1, 12, 28, and 32 and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons. However, the dependent claims recite additional limitations that further distinguish them from the cited references. Hence, it is submitted that the dependent claims are patentable over the cited art.

Based on the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1, 12, 28, and 32 are patentably distinct from the cited references. In addition, it is submitted that the dependent claims are also patentable for at least the same reasons. The additional limitations recited in the independent claims or the dependent claims are not further discussed as the above discussed limitations are clearly sufficient to distinguish the claimed invention from the cited references. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of the claims under 35 USC §103(a).

SUMMARY

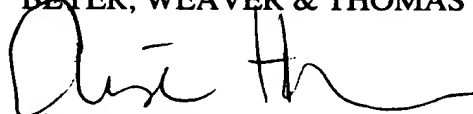
Reconsideration of the application and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If there are any issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such extension or any further fee required in connection with the filing of this Amendment is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0388 (Order No. ACTUP002).

Respectfully submitted,

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